

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6695

Petition of Alicia Milo and Randy Wiltse vs.                     )  
Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. in re: dispute            )  
concerning the proposed disconnection of electric            )  
service to petitioners' residence located in the Town of        )  
Walden, Vermont, and billing charges relating thereto        )

Order entered: 6/1/2010

**HEARING OFFICER REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

This Docket was originally opened in response to a petition filed on May 20, 2002, by Alicia Milo and Randy Wiltse ("Petitioners") concerning a billing dispute between the Petitioners and Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("WEC") that arose following WEC's issuance of a disconnection notice to Petitioners for unpaid balances on their electric account.

On May 22, 2002, a Hearing Officer of the Public Service Board ("Board") conducted a technical hearing in this Docket to develop an evidentiary record necessary to resolve the dispute between Petitioners and WEC.<sup>1</sup> However, following the closure of the evidentiary record, the Hearing Officer did not issue a Proposal for Decision, meaning the Docket could not proceed to a final order. Given the passage of time since the technical hearing, on April 29, 2010, the Clerk of the Board issued a memorandum asking the parties to file comments by the close of business on May 17, 2010, addressing "whether the Docket should proceed or simply be closed," noting that if no comments were received by that date the Board may close the Docket on its own motion.

On May 4, 2010, WEC filed comments indicating that the Petitioners moved off of the WEC system shortly before the May 22, 2002, technical hearing, rendering the account inactive, and that subsequent to the technical hearing the Petitioners continued to make payments against the outstanding balance such that the account was paid in full on January 31, 2005. Accordingly,

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1. The undersigned Hearing Officer was recently assigned to replace the previous Hearing Officer.

WEC recommends that the Board close the Docket without any additional process. The Petitioners did not file comments by the May 17, 2010, deadline.

Because no party requested that proceedings be resumed, I recommend that the Board close this Docket.

Additionally, since no party objected to closing this Docket, I conclude that this report and recommendation is not adverse to any party and therefore have not circulated it for comment pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 811.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.

s/John J. Cotter  
John J. Cotter, Hearing Officer

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont that:

1. The Report and Recommendation of the Hearing Officer is accepted.
2. This Docket shall be closed.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2010.

|                        |   |                |
|------------------------|---|----------------|
| <u>s/James Volz</u>    | ) |                |
|                        | ) | PUBLIC SERVICE |
|                        | ) |                |
| <u>s/David C. Coen</u> | ) | BOARD          |
|                        | ) |                |
|                        | ) | OF VERMONT     |
| <u>s/John D. Burke</u> | ) |                |

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: June 1, 2010

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*

*Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.*